

CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, August 27, 2007
Hanley Park, site of the Historic Martin Franklin Hanley House

The following members were present:

Alex Berger	Dick Hyde
Mimi Deem	Jill Indovino
Deb Dubin	Omri Praiss
Judy Goodman	Rich Yawitz

Excused/Absent

Lori Elliott

Also Present:

Tom Currier
Patty DeForrest, Director of Parks and Recreation
Mel and Audrey Disney
Eric Gruenenfelder, Superintendent of Recreation
Josh Mandell, Architect, the Lawrence Group
Susan Renard, Superintendent of Parks
Mimi Stiritz
Sarah Umlauf, Hanley House Intern

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the July 22 meeting were approved as read.

Director's Report

Ms. DeForrest gave a brief report noting that Clayton Parks and Recreation Commission meeting would be structured a bit differently because it was being held at Hanley Park. She acknowledged Ms. Renard and Ms. Umlauf for organizing and planning the Hanley Park event. Prior to the meeting the PTO had a wine and cheese celebration to celebrate the 2007/2008 school year at the Hanley House. The BOE and BOA were invited to the celebration as well. The Hanley House was opened for tours during the celebration and discussions were had of how the Hanley House could be incorporated to the school district curriculum. The event was very successful.

Ms. DeForrest stated that the Tennis Center and the Ice Rink bids would be presented to the BOA for approval on August 28, 2007. The DeMun Fence will be put up before the end of the year. The end of the year projects are wrapping up. This is the last week that Shaw Park Aquatic Center will be open regular hours. It will be open for lap swimming from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. for the next two weeks and then it will be open the Art Fair weekend from 12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Revenues for the pool have been stellar this year. The sale of Platinum passes has also been excellent. There is one more musical nights and one more Parties in the Park this year. We have a lot of October events and we will discuss them at the September meeting.

Hanley House Tour

Ms. Umlauf led a very informational tour of the Hanley House. The Commission members were impressed by the tour and it gave them a much better sense of what types of things could take place there and how it may be utilized by the school district

Presentation on Historic Structures Report

Mr. Mandell from The Lawrence Group, an architectural firm, discussed the components of the historic structures report and noted the areas of most importance. He talked about the overall structure, materials and exterior of the house. He noted that the primary areas of concern are the age and structure of the roof and the mechanical system in the basement. Other areas of concern are things such as the windows and doors, which have significant damage and leak, the bricks and mortar, the need to refurbish or replace the decks and porches, restore and maintain the shutters,

work on the settlement concerns associated with the stone foundation, and updating the electrical system including putting in a fire suppression system to bring everything up to code. In order to give everyone involved in reviewing the report a better idea of where the areas of concern are, photographs will be provided when the report is finalized. There are hard and soft fees associated with the scope of work and fees associated with the cost of an architect and different costs established by an engineer. Mr. Praiss and Mr. Yawitz asked questions about other cost estimates related to the historic structures report. Mr. Mandell noted that at this point in time a total cost of the entire project has not been determined and there will be a specific cost related to each area that needs to be refurbished, replaced or renovated. Mr. Mandell noted that the report also contains different options for all the area of concerns. The different options would vary in price and historical accuracy. He also mentioned that if the City of Clayton chose to do the roof this year and the windows next year then the costs associated with the project would be lower.

The capacity level on the porches and deck is 12 persons. At this time, when school groups come to tour the house it will be one class at a time so there will be approximately 20-25 students at a time. Mr. Mandell noted that he can make a scientific guess about the number of persons who could tour based on the structure of the Hanley House. The historic structures report will be completed in about 2 months. Once the report is completed, cost associated with each project will be available, then the Hanley House Council will decide which project (s) they would like to have completed first and then present the information to the BOA for approval. Ms. DeForrest noted that the Commission should view this report as a Master Plan for the facility and keep in mind that money will not be spent on the house without approval from the BOA. The plan is to get private funding, apply for grants and charge for tours to assist in sustaining the Hanley House as a museum. Ms. Stiritz from the Hanley House Council mentioned that there are very few 1850s houses from this period and stature in this area, which makes the importance of the Hanley House very high. What we need to do is make the residents in Clayton as well as the larger metropolitan area aware of the Hanley House. Further, there will be discussion about creating an ancillary building at the Hanley House.

Ms. Goodman noted that the Hanley House could be restored as a green house and Mr. Mandell explained the LEEDS program. A green house would allow the Hanley House to have more sustainable systems which are designed to use less energy. Ms. Goodman also spoke about how the Hanley House is a wonderful venue for the schools and how it could be used as an educational facility. On August, 18th high school teachers toured the Hanley House and are working on figuring out how they can incorporate discussion of the history of the Hanley House into their curriculums.

Old Business/New Business

No old or new business was discussed.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Denise Ucinski